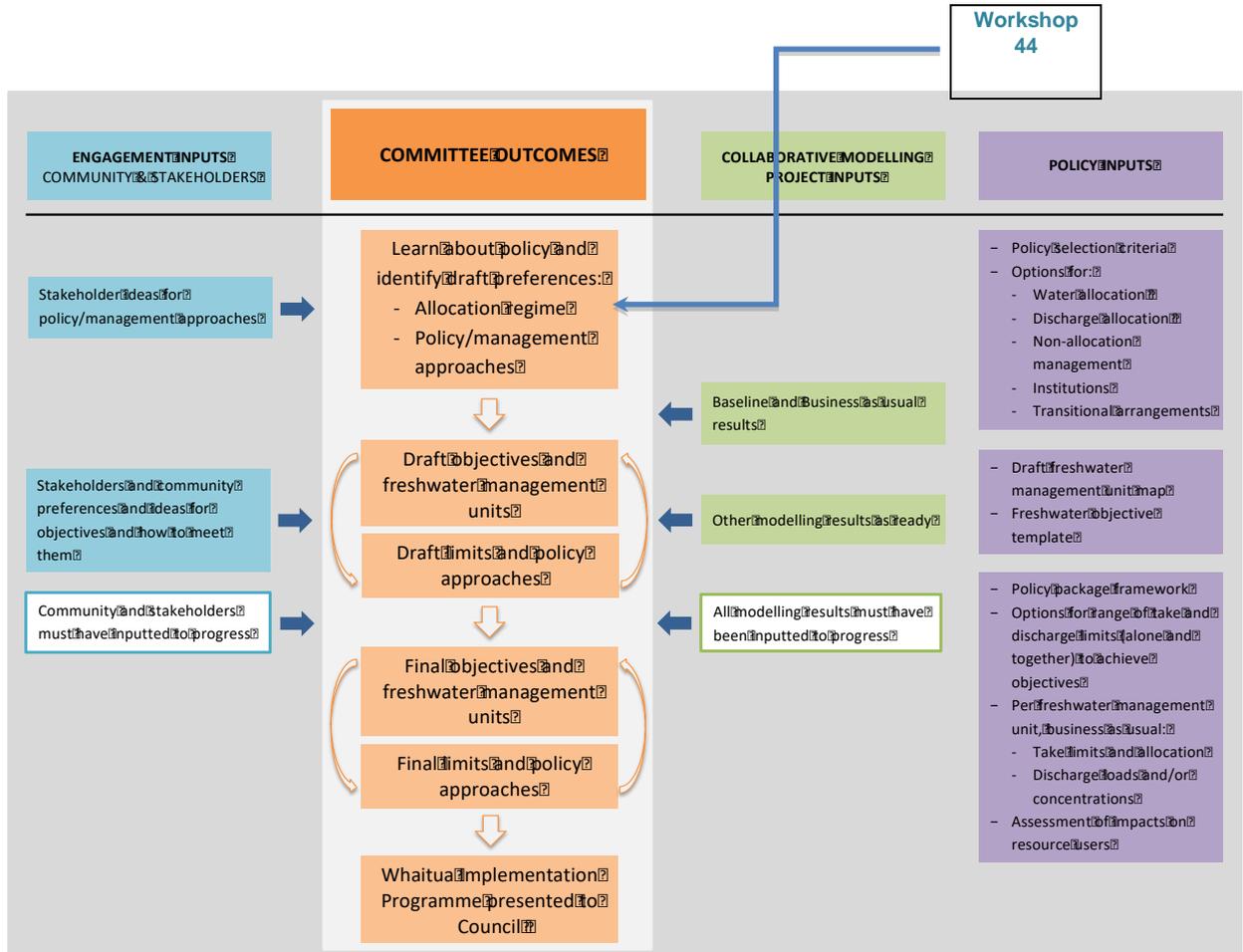


Meeting Notes: Ruamāhanga Whaitua Committee

Deliberations Phase 3 – Workshop 44

Monday 26 June 2017, 4-8PM

Carterton Events Centre



Summary This report summarises notes from a workshop of the Ruamāhanga Whaitua Committee held 26 June 2017 at the Carterton Events Centre.

Contents These notes contain the following:

- A** Workshop Attendees
- B** Workshop Purpose and Agenda
- C** Workshop Decisions
- D** Workshop Actions
- E** Workshop Notes – Water Allocation – Minimum Flows and Allocation Limits

Appendix 1: Photos of Flipcharts

A Workshop Attendees

Workshop Attendees

RW Committee:

Mike Ashby, Aidan Bichan, Mike Birch, Esther Dijkstra, Andy Duncan, David Holmes, Peter Gawith, Russell Kawana, Chris Laidlaw, Ra Smith, Vanessa Tipoki, Colin Olds.

Greater Wellington Project Team:

Grace Leung, Mike Grace, Murray McLea, Horipo Rimene, Alastair Smaill, Mike Thompson, Natasha Tomic, Hayley Vujcich.

Modellers: John Bright.

Independent Facilitator: Michelle Rush.

Apologies: Rebecca Fox, Philip Palmer.

B Workshop Purpose and Agenda

Purposes The purposes were:

- 1) Identify and reach agreement on proposals to discuss with stakeholders and community in regards to:
 - Minimum flows and allocation limits and associated policy measures for the rivers modelled.

2) Confirm final details of permitted activity proposals for:

- Stock and Domestic supply
- Dairy Wash Down
- Method(s) of accounting for permitted activities

Purpose 1 was partially achieved. Purpose 2 was not achieved.

Two documents were sent to the Committee in advance of this workshop associated with purpose two but were not considered during the workshop:

[Permitted activities for taking and using water](#)

[Recommendations for draft policy and rule preferences for permitted activity water takes](#)

Agenda

The agenda is detailed in the table below.

TIME	TASK	WHO
4:00	Welcome, Karakia, Purpose, Agenda	Peter, Ra, Michelle
4:10	Community Engagement	Jon
4:30	Minimum Flows and Allocation Limits and Associated Policy Measures <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Workshop	All
6:00	Dinner	
6:30	Minimum Flows and Allocation Limits and Associated Policy Measures <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Workshop continued	
7:00	Permitted Activities – water allocation <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Confirm draft proposals	Murray
8:00	Karakia and Close	

C Committee Decisions

Committee Decisions

No decisions were reached during this workshop.

D Workshop Actions

Workshop Actions

The following actions were agreed to:

Provide advice to RWC on the following question: How do you assess change in contaminant loads for a change in land use in a way that ensures low emitters and high performers are not disadvantaged?

E Workshop Notes – Minimum Flows and Allocation Limits

Overview

Mike Thompson reminded RWC members of the key points made in his presentation on minimum flows and allocation limits for the eight major rivers in the Ruamahanga Whaitua at the last workshop on 12 June 2017. The rivers were the Kopuaranga, Waipoua, Waingawa, Upper Ruamāhanga, Mangatarere, Waiohine, Tauherenikau and the Lower Ruamāhanga.

In addition Mike provided an indicative breakdown of consented water use by catchment.



Breakdown of consented water use

Workshop Activity

Working in three break out groups, RWC members discussed and identified proposals for each river in response to the following questions:

Identify, discuss & take some notes of what's important specifically for this river in respect of:

- Manawhenua Values
- Ecological Values
- Access to Water and Reliability of Supply
- Recreation Values.

a) Identify whether the minimum flow needs to shift from that currently in the PNRP.

b) Identify the extent the **minimum flow** needs to change. [What level of habitat / other value protection are you wanting to achieve?] Express as a percentage in relation to the current

minimum flow in the PNRP.

c) Identify whether the **allocation limit** also needs to be changed. [What level of reliability / other value surety are you wanting to achieve?] Express as a percentage in relation to the current allocation limit in the PNRP.

d) What other policy measures are needed to complement these in order for us to provide for our seven values? [Remember the options in our policy framework: regulation, education, investment and integrated planning]

**Workshop
Notes**

The results of the break out group discussions are set out in the table below.

The exercise was only partially completed, and it was agreed to continue the discussions at the next workshop.

River Key to Groups: Group 1 / Group 2 / Group 3 /	% Change Minimum flow from PNRP	% Change allocation limit from PNRP	Regulation	Education	Investment	Integrated Planning
Lower Ruamahanga						
Lower Ruamahanga	<p>Increase minimum flow at Waihenga 90% MALF Operate the lower river at a high water level All takes (Surface Water and A category GW) subject to minimum flows</p> <p>Why? Biodiversity, recreation, fishery, mahinga kai, Te Mana o Ruamahanga in Lower Ruamahanga at least as high as elsewhere. Significant mana whenua values (Category 1)</p> <p>Aim to raise to 90% MALF over time</p> <p>Made easier to achieve if water levels are raised in the bottom lakes</p>	<p>No change to allocation limit Aim to limit economic impact to affect that linked to raising minimum flow.</p>	<p>Regulation that incentivises more efficient water use and get rid of “use it or lose it”</p>	<p>Education and new technology To help people cope with change in minimum flow</p>	<p>Land purchase etc. to reinstate wetlands (and areas flooded because of higher water levels).</p>	<p>To raise the water levels and slow the flow (reduce velocity) Review to achieve multiple objectives!!</p>
Lower Ruamahanga	<p>Allocation OK Mana whenua values - mahinga Kai (flounder,</p>	<p>Allocation limit okay</p>			<p>Water races (same as Upper Ruamahanga)</p>	<p>Ecosystem - Improve habitat quality</p>

River Key to Groups: Group 1 / Group 2 / Group 3 /	% Change Minimum flow from PNRP	% Change allocation limit from PNRP	Regulation	Education	Investment	Integrated Planning
	whitebait) - water quality - wai tapu sites Habitat loss may not relate to low flow Minimum flow does not need to increase				Recreational values - Water quality improvement - Reduce sediment - Municipal waste water to land (E.coli)	- Water quality (sediment, sewage, nutrients) - Increase wetland (no. and area)
Upper Ruamāhanga	- Staged increase in minimum flow to increase resilience and protect habitat. - Staged to reach best practicable outcome – encourage motivation - Retain existing reliability (95%) by... 1. new water 2. “low hanging fruit” Staged increase in minimum flows 5yr 20yr ↑ 70% ↑ 80% 30yr 30+ ↑ ↑ 90% 90%+	5 year ‘immediate actions’: water race; water meters; irrigation efficiency				

River Key to Groups: Group 1 / Group 2 / Group 3 /	% Change Minimum flow from PNRP	% Change allocation limit from PNRP	Regulation	Education	Investment	Integrated Planning
	Target reliability = 95% (i.e. retain existing)					
Upper Ruamahanga	<p>Why increase minimum flow? Recreation – improved kayaking For example: Wai tapu sites (better protection) Increase Mahinga kai Improve aquatic ecosystem health i.e. Maintain or improve Whaitua values</p> <p>Raise the minimum flow in: Ruamahanga at Wardells Make “public water supply” subject to minimum flow. Make stock water race takes subject to minimum flow (over time) Make all Category A GW</p>	<p>No change because we want to manage the amount of economic pain water users will suffer – changing minimum flows is enough in one go. Recognises that raising the minimum flow (and keeping allocation limit the same) will mean restrictions will occur more frequently. No change in the allocation limit for the Ruamahanga at Wardell’s</p>		<p>Needed to get changes over the line Help users change their water management to cope with changes</p>	<p>Storage in one form or another</p>	<p>Fairness to all users Flood management</p> <p>River Management/Flood Management – review to achieve multiple objectives, not just flood management</p>

River Key to Groups: Group 1 / Group 2 / Group 3 /	% Change Minimum flow from PNRP	% Change allocation limit from PNRP	Regulation	Education	Investment	Integrated Planning
	takes subject to minimum flow.					
Upper Ruamahanga	Lift minimum flow (e.g. 20%) progressively moves to 90% habitat loss.	Allocation probably okay			Water quality (e.g. sewage) improvement Water races - review value and efficiency of individual water races - economic - historic - ecological	Recreation - swimming holes (double bridges) - KoKatau Te Ore Ore, Cliffs Storage potential (natural attenuation) (new water) - sub catchment dams - aquifers recharged River management - gradient, single channel - review flood protection – approach - attenuation Mana whenua - baptism - mahinga kai (water quality)

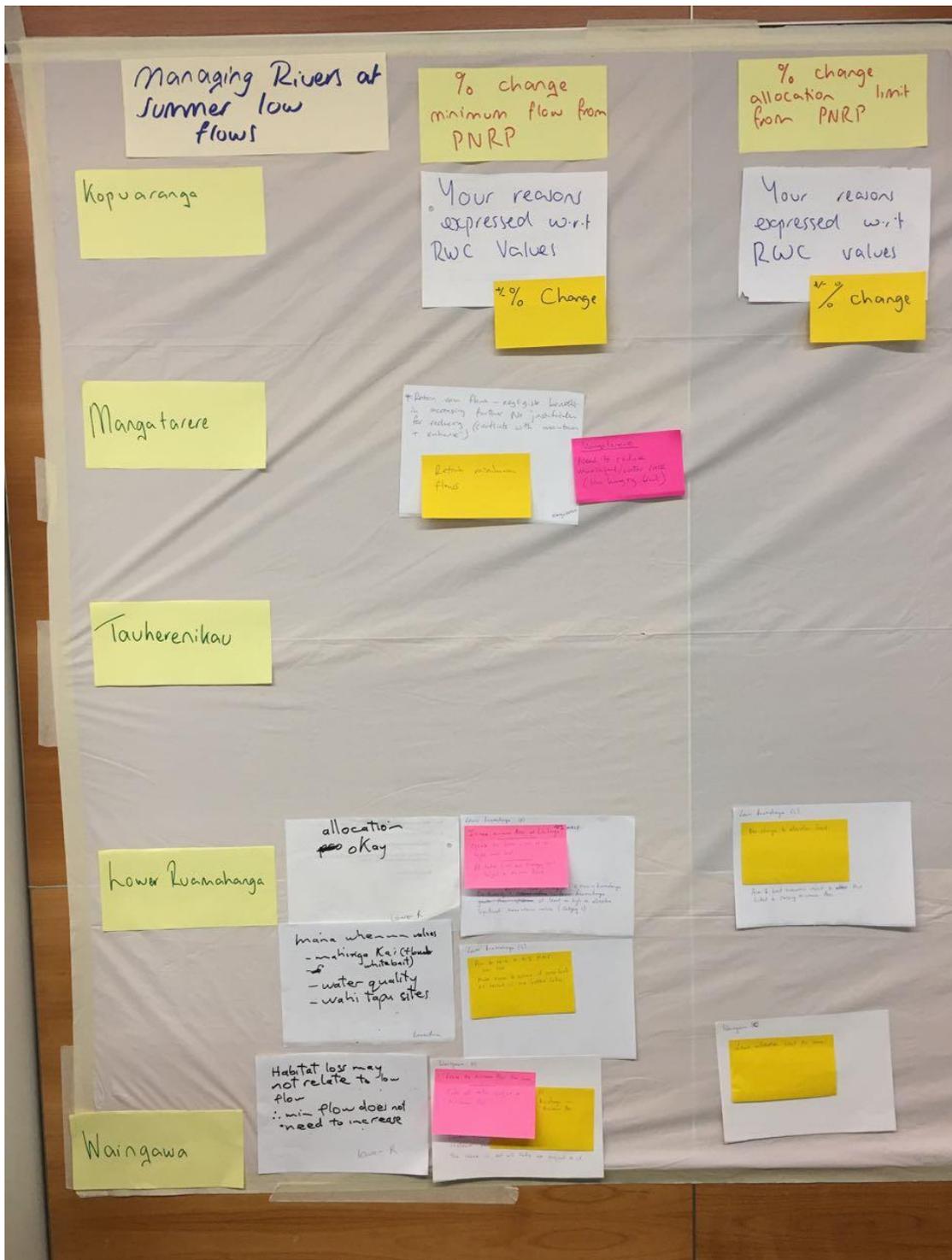
River Key to Groups: Group 1 / Group 2 / Group 3 /	% Change Minimum flow from PNRP	% Change allocation limit from PNRP	Regulation	Education	Investment	Integrated Planning
Waipoua						
Waipoua	<p>Raise minimum flow. Why? Drinking water; mahinga kai, harvesting materials; very high cultural values and recreation values. Currently suffers from high water temperature.</p> <p>Aim to raise it to 90% over time. Potential to do so in shorter timeframe than for Ruamahanga.</p>	Leave allocation limit the same		<p>Education Around water use by permitted activities (to reduce them)</p> <p>To get community understanding and ownership to achieve minimum flow change and riparian planting.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Riparian planting - Re-build Tanks Pool (recreation enhancement) - Wetland Restoration 	River Management/Flood Management – review to achieve multiple objectives, not just flood management
Waipoua	<p>Increase minimum flow progressively from yellow to green</p> <p>Mana whenua - waka used to travel up the river (Kaikokirkiri Marae)</p>	Allocation limit ok	Waipoua Recreation - Water quality needs to improve (periphyton, stormwater discharge – major recipient)		Urban section of river is modified and restoration work will improve habitat	
Waingawa						

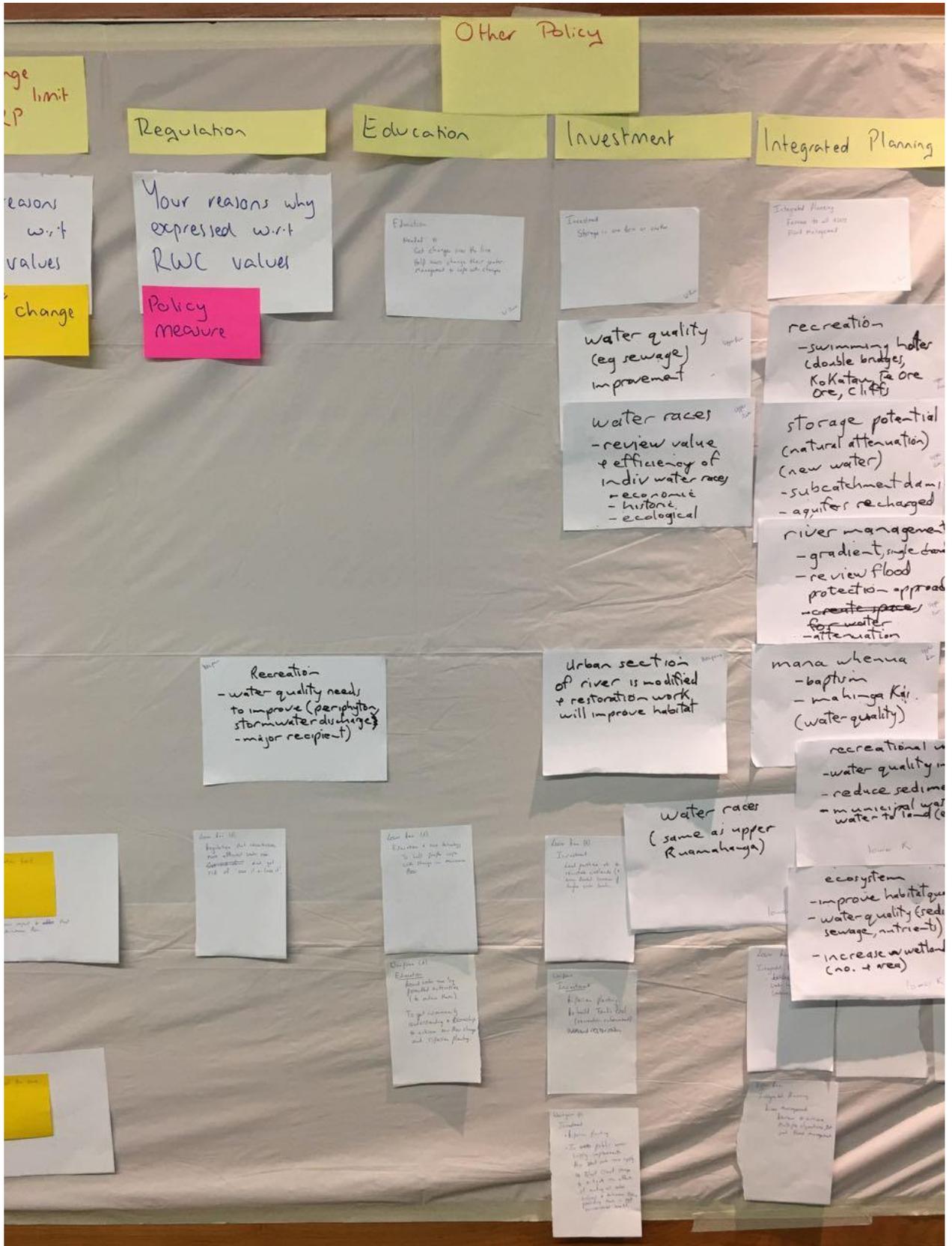
River Key to Groups: Group 1 / Group 2 / Group 3 /	% Change Minimum flow from PNRP	% Change allocation limit from PNRP	Regulation	Education	Investment	Integrated Planning
Waingawa	<p>Leave the minimum flow the same</p> <p>Make all takes subject to minimum flows (b) No change in minimum flows Current minimum flow is high enough to provide for instream values. The issue is, that not all takes are subject to it</p>	<p>Leave allocation limit the same</p>			<p>Riparian planting</p> <p>In public water supply improvements. Also stock water race supply e.g. Black Creek storage to mitigate the effects of making all takes subject to minimum flow, providing there is NET environment benefit.</p>	
Waingawa						
Mangatarere	<p>Retain minimum flows</p> <p>Retain minimum flows – negligible benefit in increasing further. No justification for reducing (conflicts with “maintain and enhance”).</p>	<p>Need to reduce municipal/water race takes (low hanging fruit)</p>				
Mangatarere	<p>Minimum flow okay</p> <p>Recreation – river goes</p>	<p>Review allocation amount and progressively move to</p>			<p>New water (e.g. storage) for public water supply and</p>	<p>River management – create riffle, run pools</p>

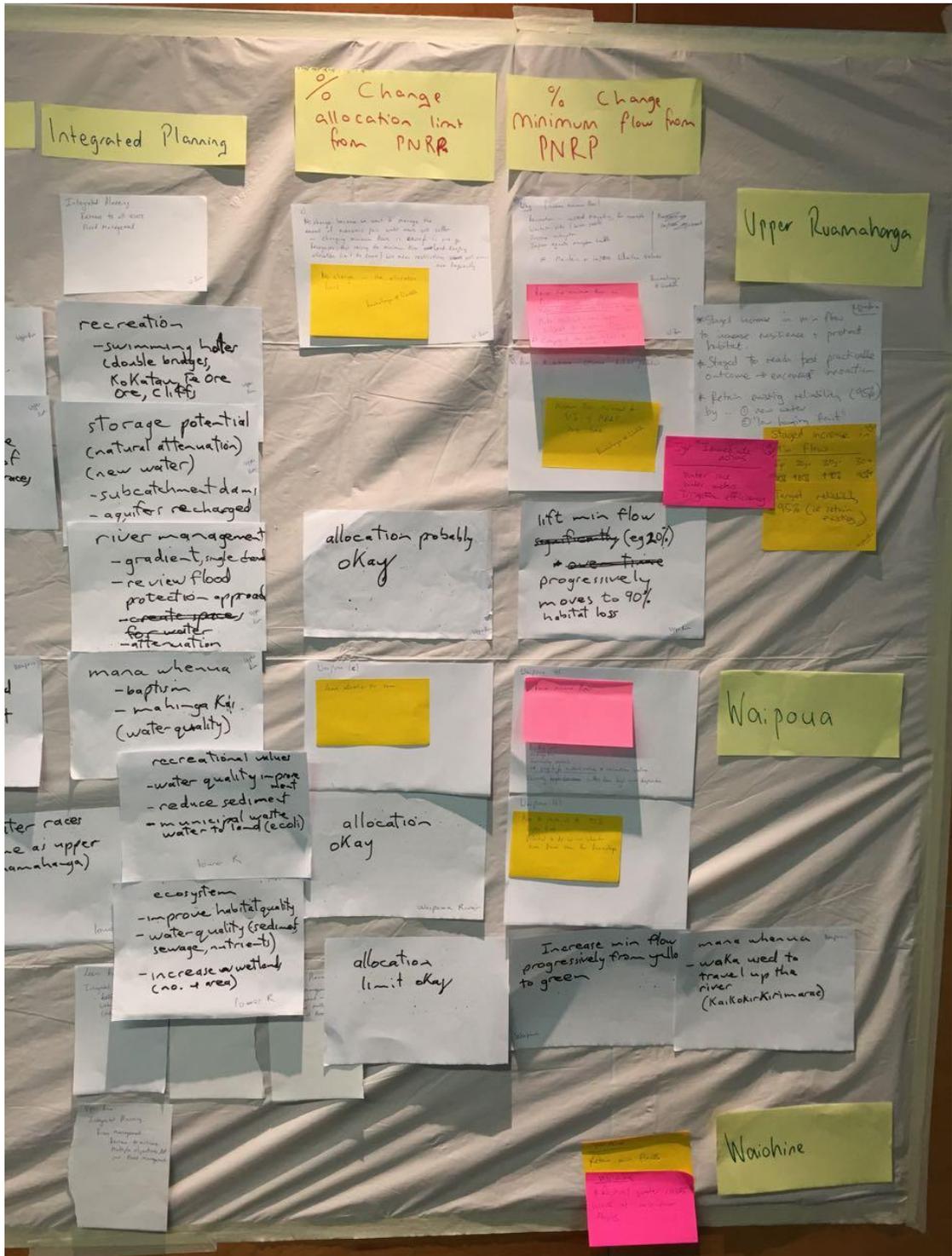
River Key to Groups: Group 1 / Group 2 / Group 3 /	% Change Minimum flow from PNRP	% Change allocation limit from PNRP	Regulation	Education	Investment	Integrated Planning
	underground in summer (also affects habitat)	“green”			recharge at low flows	Ecosystems <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • good habitat including riparian planting • increase wetlands • good water quality • challenged in summer Historic water quality (being addressed)
Mangatarere						
Waiohine	Retain minimum flows * restrict water races more at minimum flows					
Waiohine						
Waiohine						
Tauherenikau	Not discussed at this workshop.					
Tauherenikau						
Tauherenikau						
Kopuaranga	Not discussed at this workshop.					
Kopuaranga						
Kopuaranga						

ENDS

Appendix 1: Photos of flip charts







PLUS

Apologies

- Rebecca
- Phil .P.

How do you assess
change in contaminant
loads for a change in
landuse in a way that
ensures low emitters and
high performers are not disadvantaged?

TARGET
YEAR

5

20

30

30+

POLICY

Water meter
wastel fact
irrigation efficiency



TARGET

